FINANCIAL AID FOR THE CO-TERMINAL PROGRAM

Rensselaer is committed to providing financial aid assistance to co-terminal program students within the following guidelines:

- **Non-architecture majors:** Students may receive a maximum of ten semesters of Rensselaer undergraduate scholarships or grants. Architecture majors: the maximum is twelve semesters of Rensselaer undergraduate scholarships or grants.

  No further undergraduate scholarships/grants will be provided if a student does not complete the program of study after ten semesters (or twelve for architecture majors). For non-architecture majors, Rensselaer merit scholarships will be renewed in the fifth year of study at the same amount the student received in the fourth year. Architecture major merit scholarships are renewed at the same amount the student received in the fifth year of study. Award amounts in this category generally do not change.

  A student seeking assistance beyond the stated semesters of eligibility will only be considered for federal and state aid programs.

  No undergraduate Rensselaer aid programs will be available. A student may be considered for Rensselaer graduate aid upon completion of a graduate student admission application.

- **Rensselaer need-based scholarships/grants are renewable for the fifth year of study (or a sixth year student majoring in architecture), provided the student demonstrates a similar level of need, as determined by the FAFSA.** Awards in this category are subject to change if financial need decreases. Generally, these awards are not increased and may be reduced if demonstrated financial need decreases. Students must file the FAFSA by the priority filing deadline dates while in the co-terminal program for full consideration of federal, state, and/or Rensselaer need-based financial aid.

- **Federal and state aid programs may be renewable based on regulations governing those programs.** Students should be aware that NYS Grants and scholarships are limited to eight semesters of eligibility, including the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). Students who utilize the maximum Direct Loan (DL) annual borrowing limit in their first four years of study will be limited to DL borrowing of $4,000 (rather than $7,500) in their fifth year and no DL eligibility in their sixth year as an undergraduate student. These same restrictions apply to transfer students. Subject to the availability of funding, Rensselaer will provide up to one-half the loss of TAP grant a student would otherwise receive with other institutional grant funds and up to one-half the loss of Federal Direct Loans with a Federal Perkins loan if available, assuming a student meets eligibility requirements. Rensselaer will only provide assistance to make up the loss of TAP or Direct Loan eligibility when the reason is due to aggregate limits being reached (i.e. eligibility has been exhausted). A student considering the co-terminal program should be thoughtful in planning for the final year(s) of study in anticipation of potential reduced/elimination of financial aid from federal and state aid programs.

- **Students who received an NCAA athletic scholarship may receive funding in the fifth year only if they meet NCAA eligibility.** If a student athlete seeking to be a co-terminal student has exhausted her/his NCAA eligibility to play and receive an athletic scholarship, that student will be eligible for two additional semesters of support for his/her fifth year of study. However, Rensselaer financial aid will be limited to the merit award the student would have otherwise received upon admission to the Institute without regard to athletic scholarship. Need-based Rensselaer undergraduate grants will be awarded based upon the policies/guidelines in place at the time the student is entering the fifth year of study. This same strategy applies to architecture majors who receive NCAA athletic scholarships, except recipients may receive up to a total of twelve semesters of eligibility over six years.

- **Transfer students within the co-terminal program will have the maximum number of semesters of eligibility pro-rated based upon current policy utilizing anticipated completion dates upon transfer.**

- **A co-terminal student may not receive undergraduate and graduate aid simultaneously.** Thus, a student receiving a teaching assistantship or research assistantship will forfeit undergraduate aid and/or is no longer eligible for the co-terminal program.

Please feel free to contact the Office of Financial Aid with any questions and/or concerns. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with an Assistant Director to more fully understand available funding prior to submitting a co-terminal program application. We can be reached Monday through Friday at (518) 276-6813 or finaid@rpi.edu.